

CLAIMS

We claim:

- SUB 1 A237
1. A method for publishing a catalog, comprising the steps
 - 2 of:
 - 3 receiving from a supplier via EDI a flat file catalog;
 - 4 loading said catalog into a DB2 staging table;
 - 5 allowing buyer audit control over selected fields in
 - 6 the staging table catalog while restricting buyer
 - 7 access to other fields;
 - 8 updating a DB2 production table from said DB2 staging
 - 9 table; and
 - 10 allowing a user read access to said DB2 production
 - 11 table.

1 2. A requisition catalog administration method for
2 providing control, audit, and publishing procedures for flat
3 files received from suppliers, comprising the steps of:

4 receiving a catalog flat file from a supplier;

5 converting said flat file into a staging table having
6 access control list controls over fields within said
7 staging table;

8 controlling through a graphical user interface edit
9 access authority to said staging table and through said
10 access control list access to fields within said
11 staging table;

12 responsive to input from a buyer granted access control
13 list access to selected field in said staging table,
14 updating said selected fields; and

15 responsive to buyer command, updating a production
16 catalog with said staging table for read access by
17 users in creating requisitions against said catalog.

1 3. System for building and using a web catalog,

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2 comprising:

3 a supplier catalog flat file for storing catalog items
4 in an enterprise defined format;

5 a database including a staging table and a production
6 table;

7 an application server for receiving, converting and
8 storing said flat file to said staging table;

9 an administration function;

10 a catalog administration procedure for presenting said
11 staging table to said catalog administration function
12 in a graphical user interface with fields of said
13 staging table selectively enabled or disabled for
14 auditing in accordance with the role and authority of a
15 user of said administration function; and for
16 publishing an administration audited catalog to said
17 production table;

18 a requisition creation function operable by a user for
19 creating a requisition with reference to said
20 production table; and

1 9. The method of claim 8, further comprising the steps of:
2 responsive to said validating step determining an error
3 in said flat file format or data, or responsive to said
4 buyer non approving said data in said staging table,
5 sending a reject message to said supplier.

1 10. The method of claim 8, said fields of data in said
2 staging table being selected for change based upon the level
3 of authority granted by a role table to said buyer's web
4 identifier.

1 11. A program storage device readable by a machine,
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a
3 machine to perform method steps for publishing a catalog,
4 said method steps comprising:

5 receiving from a supplier via EDI a flat file catalog;

6 loading said catalog into a DB2 staging table;

7 allowing buyer audit control over selected fields in
8 the staging table catalog while restricting buyer

